

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 NEW DE 12279 111227Z  
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 PA-02 H-02 EA-12 OES-09  
SP-02 SS-15 NSC-05 ICA-20 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00  
/093 W

-----043442 121531Z /66

R 111141Z AUG 78  
FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3343

UNCLAS NEW DELHI 12279

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: EAID, PFOR, IN, VM  
SUBJECT: INDIAN AID TO VIETNAM

1. PRESS SPECULATION THAT THE WITHDRAWAL OF CHINESE AID TO VIETNAM MIGHT LEAD TO A VIETNAMESE APPROACH TO INDIA HAS PROMPTED PARLIAMENTARY QUESTIONS TO THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (AS WELL AS CONGRESSMAN YOUNG'S QUERY REPORTED STATE 190379). ASKED WHETHER VIETNAM RECENTLY APPROACHED THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA FOR FINANCIAL AND ECONOMIC HELP, THE MINISTER REPLIED IN WRITING ON AUGUST 10, THAT VIETNAM HAD NOT APPROACHED THE GOI "WITH ANY CONCRETE PROPOSALS FOR ADDITIONAL ASSISTANCE."

2. ANOTHER MEMBERS ASKED WHETHER "ANY GENERAL OR BROAD INDICATIONS HAVE BEEN GIVEN BY THE GOVERNMENT OF VIETNAM FOR FURTHER ASSISTANCE," AND IF SO, HOW MUCH WAS SOUGHT AND GIVEN. THE MINISTER REITERATED THAT THE GOI RECEIVED NO CONCRETE PROPOSALS. HE CONTINUED, "CASUALLY, HERE AND THERE, THEY HAVE MENTIONED IT. I CAN ALSO TELL THE HOUSE THAT ONE OF THE VICE FOREIGN MINISTERS WHO MET ME SOMETIME BACK ALSO SAID THAT THEY MAY NEED HELP. THAT IS ALL. HE KEPT THE MATTER THERE. SO, UNLESS THERE IS A DEFINITE PROPOSAL, YOU CANNOT QUANTIFY IT."

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3. WHEN PRESSED WHETHER "ADDITIONAL ASSISTANCE CAN BE GIVEN IF THEY COME WITH SOME CONCRETE PROPOSALS AS BEFORE, THE MINISTER REPLIED, "IT IS ONLY A HYPOTHETICAL QUESTION. AS I SAID, OUR DESIRE TO HELP SUCH COUNTRIES IS LIMITLESS, BUT OUR CAPABILITY IS LIMITED. KEEPING THESE THINGS IN VIEW, WHENEVER ANY CONCRETE PROPOSALS COME, THEY WILL BE CONSIDERED ON

MERITS."

4. TO THE QUESTION WHETHER ANY COUNTRIES "ARE REACTING ADVERSELY BECAUSE OF THIS AID WHICH IS BEING GIVEN TO VIETNAM," KUNDU REPLIED, "I DO NOT KNOW, NOT TO MY KNOWLEDGE, IF ANY COUNTRY HAS REACTED."

5. AN EARLIER QUESTION REFERRED TO THE DETERIORATION IN VIETNAM-CHINA RELATIONS AND ASKED FOR THE DETAILS OF THE "ASSISTANCE PROPOSED TO BE GIVEN." IN A WRITTEN REPLY ON AUGUST 4, THE MINISTER OF STATE LISTED THOSE PROGRAMS WHICH HAD ALREADY BEEN AGREED DURING PHAM VAN DONG'S VISIT LAST FEBRUARY (NEW DELHI 3468). THAT ASSISTANCE WAS DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: "(1) ESTABLISHMENT OF A RICE RESEARCH INSTITUTE AND A BUFFALO BREEDING CENTRE AS A GIFT FROM THE PEOPLE OF INDIA TO THE PEOPLE OF VIETNAM (2) LOAN OF 370,000 TONNES OF WHEAT AND WHEAT PRODUCTS, (3) GOVERNMENT TO GOVERNMENT AS WELL AS COMMERCIAL CREDIT FOR RS. 400 MILLION LARGELY UTILIZED FOR SUPPLY OF RAILWAY EQUIPMENT AND LIVESTOCK AND (4) TECHNICAL COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND DIVERSE FIELDS OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT UNDER ITEC (INDIAN TECHNICAL AND ECONOMIC COOPERATION PROGRAM)."  
GOHEEN

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## Message Attributes

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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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